From: c.deveaux
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/6/01 9:45pm
Subject: PUNISH Microsoft, Don't be tricked into rewarding them!

In having Microsoft donate free software to schools, you are playing right into their hands. This is no punishment at all, all this

will accomplish will be to further entrench their software's dominance in the marketplace. Only this time it will be among people

who probably never had computer skills before; they had nothing with which to learn. If this goes through, they will be trained to

go into the workplace with Microsoft-only computer skill; in other words, only capable of working in some flavour of Windows.

One of the reasons Windows is dominant is because most software is written for it; following a vicious circle:

-third party vendors sell more because Windows is much more popular. (It is absolute crap for the money we pay, BUT   SINCE EVERYTHING IS WRITTEN FOR IT WE HAVE NO CHOICE!)

-because everything is written for windows, Microsoft maintain its stranglehold continuously. No one can buy another   OS that has even a tenth of what is available for Windows.

Contrary to what Mr. Gates et al spew out, Microsoft is not about choice or innovation, it is about gouging the consumer and

maintaining their monopoly and to hell with what consumers want. They just couldn't give a crap. Linux, for example, is free and

doesn't crash even 1/100th as often as the most popular Windows. Microsoft has a billion-dollar budget and they can't even debug

their own product. Why? PLANNED OBSOLESCENSE. After all, if the old version has loads of bugs (and with Microsoft it always

does) they can sell a new version with bug fixes and not even have to.. *GASP*... ACTULLY EARN THE MONEY THEY ARE

GETTING BY GIVING THE CUSTOMER WHAT THEY WANT!!

Yes, for the record I HATE Microsoft and absolutely everything they stand for. When I think of all the money I had to spend on

their crappy system it makes my blood boil. No-one wants to take a chance on lesser-known OS's so I

HAVE NO CHOICE BUT

TO USE MS WINDOWS (to my continual chagrin)

    Force them to break up. Force the to reveal their source code. Do something to break the death grip the have on the PC

industry. I personally want them GONE. But I'd settle for having a choice.

Regards,

Chris Deveaux